

JAPAN-UNITED STATES SENATE
YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to draw the attention of my Senate colleagues to a successful international exchange program involving the youth of America. This program, the Japan-United States Senate Youth Exchange Program has been sponsored over the years by the Government of Japan and the Center for Global Partnership and has been sending young students from the United States to Japan for the past 15 years.

The program, which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki in 1981, offers outstanding United States high school students the opportunity to spend a summer with a Japanese host family through Youth for Understanding [YFU] International Exchange. As these young people assume positions in business, government, education, and other endeavors, they play a significant role in strengthening the bonds between Japan and the United States.

In the past, 2 students from each of the 50 States of the United States were selected to participate in this exchange program. Because of funding reductions, only 1 student from each State now participates in the program. This is regrettable and represents a downward trend in international exchanges.

The imbalance of exchanges between the United States and Japan is worrisome: there are 20 Japanese exchangees in the United States for every 1 American exchange student in Japan. And funding from Japan for exchanges is much greater than funding from the United States. I hope this imbalance can be corrected.

Mr. President, the Japan-United States Senate Youth Exchange Program has been functioning in the best interests of the United States, Japan, and the individual student and family participants. I want to take this occasion to salute and encourage the efforts of both public and private contributors who have assisted and continue to assist this worthwhile program.

THE BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, before discussing today's bad news about the Federal debt, how about "another go", as the British put it, with our pop quiz. Remember? One question, one answer.

The question: How many millions of dollars does it take to add up to a trillion dollars? While you are thinking about it, bear in mind that it was the U.S. Congress that ran up the Federal debt that now exceeds \$4.9 trillion.

To be exact, as of the close of business yesterday, September 6, the total Federal debt—down to the penny—stood at \$4,969,749,463,346.30, of which, on a per capita basis, every man, woman, and child in America owes \$18,865.25.

Mr. President, back to our pop quiz, how many million in a trillion: There are one million million in a trillion.

BIPARTISAN BUDGET SUMMIT
NEEDED NOW

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is time for a bipartisan summit on the budget.

As I said back in June during the debate on the 1996 budget resolution, I fear that the Republican congressional leadership and the President are on a collision course over the budget.

An immediate bipartisan budget summit is needed to forge a solution to next year's appropriations bills, or we will have a disaster on our hands that will force the entire Government to an abrupt halt this fall.

The start of the 1996 fiscal year is less than a month away, yet we are far from completing the 13 annual appropriations bills needed to fund the Government. In fact, we are very close to a fiscal disaster.

The House, Senate, and the President are still miles apart on these bills without much effort being made to find common ground within the next 30 days. And the administration is now preparing contingency plans for agencies to continue essential operations in case we fail to agree before the first of October.

I see little hope for an agreement if we keep to our current course.

Of the 11 appropriations bills passed so far in the House, President Clinton has threatened to veto 6. The Senate has passed seven appropriations bills, with huge differences from their House counterparts. Indeed, the Senate and House have reached agreement on only one appropriations bill.

The political rhetoric is heating up as the fiscal disagreement continues.

Speaker of the House NEWT GINGRICH has declared that: "The budget fight for me is the equivalent of Gettysburg in the Civil War."

President Clinton has also refused to back down, saying: "I will not be blackmailed into selling the American people's future down the drain to avoid a train wreck. Better a train wreck."

This push for a train wreck is stupid on both sides. We don't need to shut down the Government to prove we are Democrats or Republicans. We all know that an all Republican budget will not become law or an all Democratic budget will not become law.

This political posturing is just what Vermonters tell me that they dislike about Washington.

Shutting down the Government in an attempt to score political points will only bring more scorn of our political system. It is time to put our political differences aside and come together in a bipartisan budget summit—before the crisis.

Our political system will not be the only loser if political gamesmanship causes a Government shutdown—a shutdown will also be a loser for U.S. taxpayers. Government shutdowns waste taxpayer money.

In 1981, for example, the Government spent \$5.5 million to close offices and send workers home. In 1990, a President and Congress of different parties failed

to reach a bipartisan agreement on the budget. And the General Accounting Office calculated that the resulting 3-day Government shutdown cost taxpayers between \$244 and \$607 million.

Government shutdowns also hurt the citizens in our society who depend on our Government the most. In 1979, an 11-day Government shutdown led to delays in Federal payments for housing subsidies, delays in GI bill education checks, and delays in aid to the disabled.

A longer shutdown could hurt senior citizens who rely on their Social Security income, students who rely on Federal loans, farmers who rely on Federal support programs, travelers who rely on our air traffic control system, and consumers who rely on meat inspections.

We need a bipartisan budget summit to avoid such a costly Government shutdown. For a summit to succeed, everything must be on the table: taxes, health care reform, entitlement reform, further spending reductions, and the time it will take to get to a balanced budget.

Such a summit will be a grueling, sometimes acrimonious, encounter. But anyone who has studied the various blueprints can see the outlines of an agreement.

Both Republicans and Democrats agree that we must consolidate unnecessary Government programs, reform welfare, and control Medicare and Medicaid spending. We may now disagree on some of the details for accomplishing these goals, but that is why we need a bipartisan summit—to hammer out the details of a compromise.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING
BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 10:30 a.m. having arrived, the Senate will now resume consideration of H.R. 4, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4) to restore the American family, reduce illegitimacy, control welfare spending, and reduce welfare dependence.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Dole modified amendment No. 2280, of a perfecting nature.

Daschle modified amendment No. 2282 (to Amendment No. 2280), in the nature of a substitute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 3:30 p.m. shall be equally divided between the managers.

Mr. MOYNIHAN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York is recognized.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, it has been understood with my friend,